

NRCS-Alaska Technical Guide
Section III
Quality Criteria –Air

Natural Resource Concern	Description of Concern	State Quality Criteria	Assessment Tools for Quality Criteria Evaluation	Measurement Units
AIR				
Air Quality - Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM 10)	Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals.	Land use and management operations comply with PM 10 requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific guidelines contained in State or Federal Implementation Plan; or other approved NRCS tool. Air quality analysis 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM 2.5)	Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals.	Land use and management operations comply with PM 2.5 requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific guidelines contained in State or Federal Implementation Plan; or other approved NRCS tools 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Ammonia (NH3)	Animal waste and inorganic commercial fertilizers emit ammonia that contributes to odor, is a PM2.5 precursor, and contributes to acid rain.	Land use and management operations comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Chemical Drift	Materials applied for pest control drift downwind and contaminate/injure non-targeted fields, crops, soils, water, animals and humans.	Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations, and applicable label directions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Objectionable Odors	Land use and management operations produce offensive smells.	Odor-producing facilities and activities are planned and sited to mitigate potential nuisance impacts and meets all applicable Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olfactory assessment Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH) NRCS approved tools 	Non Measurable

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Air Quality - Reduced Visibility	Sight distance is impaired due to airborne particles causing unsafe conditions and impeded viewing of natural vistas especially in Class I viewing areas (primarily national parks and monuments).	Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations including state and local smoke and/or burn management plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual assessment • Regional air partnership recommendations and/or state guidance for smoke management 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Undesirable Air Movement	Wind velocities (too little or too much) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption.	Devices and practices are sited and planned to mitigate excess or deficient air movement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual assessment • Anemometers • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools 	Non Measurable
Air Quality - Adverse Air Temperature	Air temperatures (too cold or too hot) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption.	Devices and practices are planned and sited to mitigate temperature extremes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chill factor indices; heat indices • Air temperature assessment • Thermometer 	Non Measurable